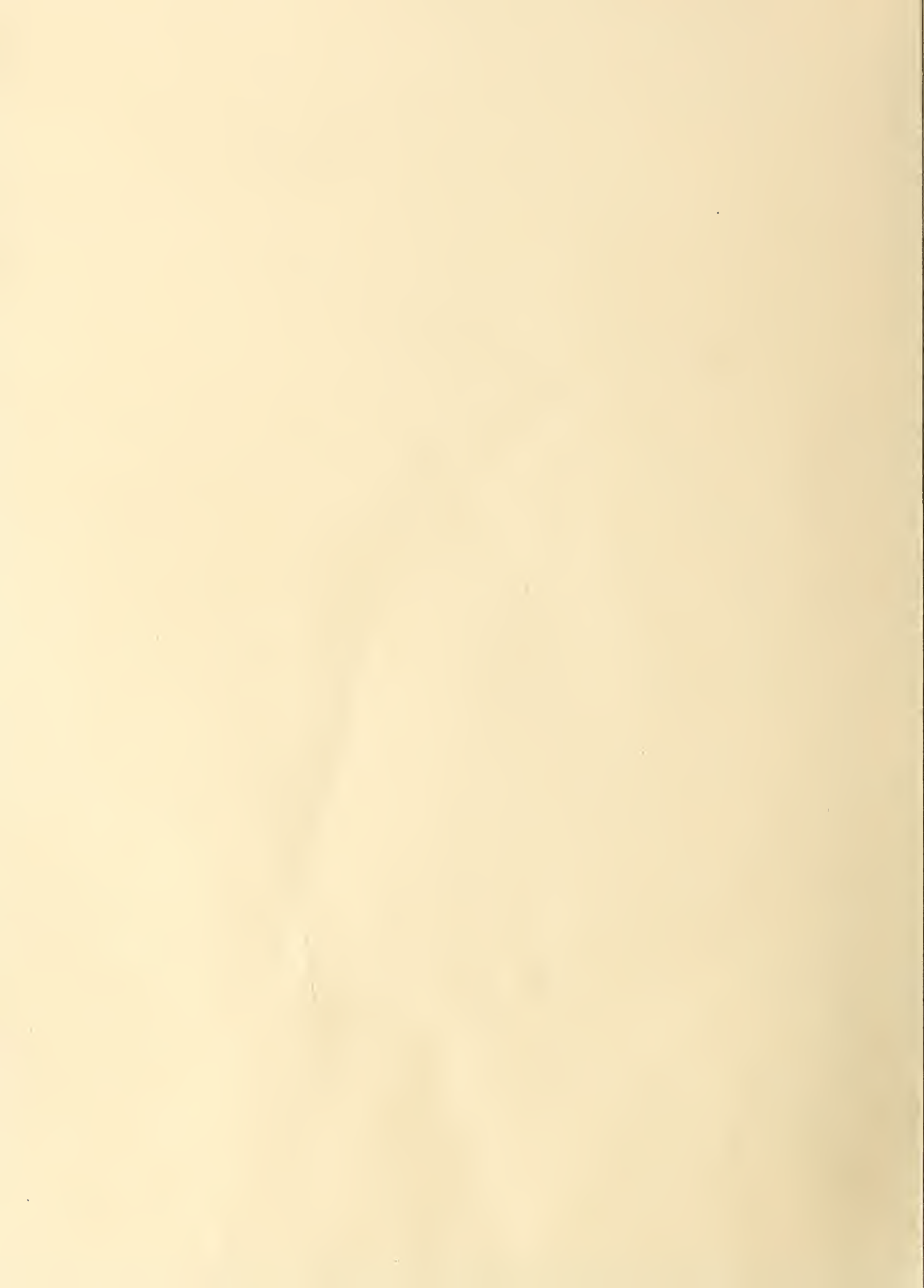


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# Extension Service

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## 1942—Call it a year

LESTER A. SCHLUP, Editor, Extension Service Review

**In the great struggle to grow more food for the United Nations, Extension stood out as the specialist corps of the U. S. agricultural army**

■ IT WAS A YEAR of shortages, priorities, and substitutes . . . of WPB, OPA, OCD, and OWI . . . of 10 percent pledges for war bonds . . . of soaring taxes, and a shrinking standard of living . . . of fewer automobiles, radios and refrigerators, and more bombers and tanks . . . of conversion of plants from civilian to war production.

■ IT WAS A YEAR of Food for Freedom, vitamins for vitality, and gardening for victory . . . of MacArthur at bay in Bataan Peninsula . . . of rationing . . . of building a bridge of boats and of holding open the oceans for the bridge to go over . . . of controlling prices . . . of "Hoarding Helps Hitler" . . . of scrap collection, conservation, and repair campaigns . . . of less metal for civilian use and more civilian mettle . . . of Jimmie Doolittle bombing Tokyo . . . of the first anniversary of the Atlantic Charter.

■ IT WAS A YEAR of Coral Seas, Midway, Aleutian Islands, Solomon Islands . . . of American forces in action on every continent, in, on, and over the seven seas, and on the shores of every ocean . . . of America stirring from its lethargy and picking itself up by its bootstraps.

■ IT WAS A YEAR in which the Soviet fighting for the Volga and the southern Caucasus, and the British fighting for the gate to the Suez averted a major catastrophe by keeping the Nazis from the bridge of the Middle East . . . a year which saw United States forces occupying northern Africa.

■ IT WAS A YEAR in which American farmers smashed all previous records for crop production.

■ IT WAS A YEAR which closed with the civilized world waiting, not too patiently, for the Battle of Germany and the Battle of Japan.

■ YES, CALL IT A YEAR . . . one in which Extension can share the justifiable pride of the entire Nation . . . one in which Extension was a vital cog in the gigantic mechanism of global warfare.

Extension, old in experience, but as young as the next problem to be tackled, for more than a year previous to Pearl Harbor had been girding itself for the great test. A many-faceted organization, responsive to local rural needs and problems, yet with close administrative, fiscal, and policy ties with State and Federal Governments, Extension threw itself into wholehearted, active cooperation with the USDA War Boards, State and county defense councils, farm organizations, OPA, and many other agencies seeking to effectuate war programs in rural areas.

Extension had its own war program, too. Hardly had the year opened when Secretary Wickard assigned to Extension important responsibilities for prosecuting the war program in rural America (see March 1942 ESR).

The big assignment was education . . . teaching farm people how to produce Food for Freedom in the quantities needed, to understand and profit from action programs of the USDA, to care for and repair farm machinery, to collect scrap and fats, to conserve, to eat intelligently and live healthily, to know the basic reasons for rationing and the "why and how" of the program to control the cost of living, to mobilize rural youth behind the war effort, to market profitably, to protect rural areas from damaging fires, and to train more local leaders to help do the larger war job. Education and organization . . . yes, these were the big jobs on which Extension in every State and Territory and in every rural county focused its efforts . . . jobs which its training and experience, dating back to before World War I, qualified it eminently to handle.

Many of the time-tested farm operations had to be overhauled in the face of the drastic changes that war brought about . . . lack of rubber, lack of farm machinery, scarcity of chemicals for insecticides and fungicides, lack of farm labor, depletion or disappearance of many materials and facilities thought to be essential to farm production and marketing.

### Something new added

This meant that extension workers had to be armed with new information, new facts, that would help the farmer to produce and to market in spite of handicaps. It meant, too, that the organization had to be expanded and extended to make it possible to reach every farm home swiftly . . . every farm home whether or not it had a radio, took a newspaper, or owned a telephone . . . every farm home in spite of the fact that meetings, tours, and other extension get-togethers had to be abandoned or curtailed for the duration.

This was a big order. Yet, before the year had reached its zenith, 650,000 rural men and women were pledged to help reach the farm homes of the country. Thus, Extension donned 7-league boots.

In most States, these rural men and women were called volunteer neighborhood leaders . . . volunteer, because they contributed their time and effort as a patriotic public service . . . neighborhood, because each one served from 10 to 20 neighboring farm homes . . . leaders, because they saw to it that all farm homes received and understood the information that it was necessary for them to have to work and live in a world at war.

Their first test came in May when Extension was given the gigantic task of informing all farm people about plans for controlling the cost of living. Armed with simple leaflets and check lists, and with the knowledge that had been supplied to them through extension channels, neighborhood leaders who were on the job at that time contacted all farms in their neighborhoods. Sample checks showed that the anti-inflation information had penetrated swiftly into even remote areas through the neighborhood leaders. Commented Leon Henderson in a letter to Secretary Wickard: "Our reports indicate that the work (on anti-inflation) being done by the Extension Service through its neighborhood-leader system is the best that is being done in rural areas."

Since then they have been called upon numer-



ous times to aid in disseminating vital wartime information on such subjects as rural fire protection, food for freedom, sale of United States War Bonds, salvage collection, nutrition and health, development of home food supplies, and the like. As the year came to a close, neighborhood leaders were visiting farm people, telling them about the Nation's voluntary "share the meat" program which provides a weekly allowance of 2½ pounds of meat for adults.

The job of organizing, training, and servicing these neighborhood leaders was one of Extension's biggest undertakings in years of big undertakings. To the county agents and home demonstration agents must go the principal credit for a job well done and quickly done.

### Problems were myriad and difficult

Fulcrum of practical mass education in rural areas is the county extension agent. The agent is adept at forging out of Government programs adaptations that fit neatly into the realities of local situations. Problems dance around the agent's office and the county like drops of water on a red-hot stove . . . and many of them no less hot. Handling these problems taxed all of the resourcefulness and energy, the ability and tact that characterize the work of agents . . . got them out of bed at dawn, kept them up late at night.

One county agent, commenting upon the versatility of his profession, stated aptly: "The county agent has more bulletins, circulars and leaflets, more mimeographs, more visual aids on more subjects, and he makes more speeches on more topics than any other one man on earth. What's more, the farmer expects him to give him information on everything from apples to aphids, from forestry to feeding, from drainage to sociology, and from fertilizer to Food for Freedom. If he fills the bill, he is a superman. And very often he fills it." The same comment would, of course, apply to the versatility of the home demonstration agent and the 4-H Club agent.

A roster of jobs undertaken and accomplishments made by extension workers during the first year of our participation in World War II would fill this issue of the REVIEW. Many of their activities and results have been described in the REVIEW during the year.

First and most important job on the roster was Food for Freedom. County agents saw that farmers were armed with facts that would give them the "know how" to fulfill their pledges to increase the growing of food needed to build up the diets of Americans and their allies. This meant more milk per cow, more eggs per hen, more meat per animal, more bushels per acre, more production per man. But it meant, too, showing farmers how to cope successfully with such wartime handicaps as scarcity of labor, rubber, fertilizers, farm machinery, and other normally essential supplies and equipment, with insect and disease damage, with soil depletion, with problems of storage, processing, and marketing.

Other variants of Food for Freedom which drew heavily on the time of agents were wheat feeding, early marketing of hogs, Victory Gardens, machinery repair, the production of oil-bearing crops, and the like. On these and many other programs a tremendous amount of facts and guidance were supplied through extension channels that helped the farmer to adjust his plant and his practices more intelligently and more swiftly to the necessities of war.

Not only the farm plant but the home plant had to be shifted to a wartime basis. That meant teaching the farm woman how to modify her daily life to slip readily into the tenor of the war situation.

Most important job on the farm home front was to keep the family healthy and fit to withstand the mental and physical strains that war imposes. Home demonstration workers, county agents, and their local volunteer leaders encouraged and helped farm people to understand the proper foods needed by the body, and then to plan for, produce, and conserve as many of these foods as possible on the home farm. They taught also effective ways of meeting the problem of shortages of such materials as cans, zinc tops for glass jars, sugar, and such equipment as pressure cookers. They showed farm people how to prepare foods to preserve their nutrition values. Household efficiency, home sanitation, personal health habits, fat collection, elimination of waste, how to prolong the life of garments, remodeling clothing, and a host of other activities were an integral part of extension efforts to aid farm people to make the sweeping shifts war calls for.

The 4-H Club program, too, was overhauled and streamlined to enable rural youth to make a maximum contribution to the war effort. In a drive to mobilize farm youth behind the victory effort, the Department and the State Extension Services dedicated the week of April 5 as National 4-H Mobilization Week. All of the 1,500,000 4-H members were rallied behind a Victory program which included the buying and selling of war bonds and stamps, scrap collections, production and conservation of food for home use, Food for Freedom, rural fire protection, good citizenship, first aid, home nursing, health, conservation of clothing, and aid in relieving the farm labor shortage.

In a letter addressed to the 4-H Club members, President Roosevelt commended them for their war plans and concluded as follows: "Your 4-H Club pledge embodies the obligation which rests upon every club member as a young citizen. Respect it, study it, make it a part of your very being. Let your head, heart, hands, and health truly be dedicated to your country which needs them now as never before."

That this message was heeded seriously is indicated by preliminary 4-H reports which were discussed in the story entitled "4-H Clubs Gird for War" appearing on page 178 of the December REVIEW.

In a November radio talk acknowledging the importance of the results obtained through the 4-H Victory program, Secretary Wickard said: "That's the best news I have heard recently. Next year we shall have to depend on farm boys and girls much more than we have this year, and it's good to know how much we can rely on them."

And so it goes, on and on. There is hardly a phase of farm and home life on which extension workers have not assembled, organized, and disseminated sound agricultural facts, facts required by farm people to enable them to give maximum contribution to the war program. In this, Extension worked, for the most part, with many other agencies, Federal, State, and local.

Extension manpower was rapidly reaching the stage of an acute problem when the year closed. Every month saw about 50 extension workers leave their work on the home front to prepare for the battle front. Already about 900 men and women from Extension are in active military service. It was estimated that the turn-over in male personnel had jumped from the normal 6 percent to 18 percent during the year, female personnel from 13 to 15 percent. This created a massive problem of selecting and training new workers . . . 1,500 of them in 1942.

### Tomorrow's task

As the year flickered out, many problems were still clamoring for attention . . . problems upon which farm people needed understanding and guidance. The toughest one, said Secretary Wickard, is where are we going to get the manpower to produce those most vital of wartime foods—milk, meats, and eggs. Equipment, transportation, and processing facilities looked less certain. At the same time, military and lend-lease needs were estimated to be up 50 percent. Also more attention would have to be given to building up food reserves.

With these problems in mind, Director of Extension Work M. L. Wilson envisioned five broad divisions in which extension work would fall in 1943.

"First," he said, "Extension must help farmers to step up efficiency in food production with the emphasis everywhere on meeting the food goals established by the Department of Agriculture. Extension work everywhere will emphasize efficient use of land, labor, material, equipment, time, and money. Even the efficient farm manager of the past will have many new methods to learn."

"The second broad division will be to stimulate, to an even greater degree than in 1942, the home production and conservation by farm families of their own food supplies along the lines of nutritional needs."

"The third broad division will be in helping farmers organize their farm activities to meet the rigors of wartime shortages, and to cooperate in special wartime activities which may be essential for victory. A phase of this



program is the Nation-wide farm machinery repair education which is now under way. Similar programs will be necessary to help farmers overcome shortages of fertilizers, building materials, shortages of certain types of feed in some areas, and other supplies which farmers in the past have been able to purchase at random. Conservation of all essential material and equipment will be stressed.

"The fourth broad division will be to encourage young people to enlist in agricultural work that will help speed victory. In the past year remarkable achievements have been made in a seven-point 4-H Victory program. Similar plans are under way for 1943. Encouragement will also be given to help city youth enlist for farm work during the summer months.

"The fifth broad division of extension work

will be in helping rural people keep alive their human qualities in wartime. This will include emphasis on physical health, good nutrition, interest in education and general knowledge; decent standards; ability to meet post-war situations with intelligence and courage."

Extension, with a huge reservoir of scientific information at its disposal and with a great tradition of utilizing that information in the best interests of farm and national life, rolled up its sleeves, spat on its hands, and faced forward to probably the most difficult year of its existence.

Yes, call 1942 a year; but it appeared that 1943 would require even more thorough, more effective, more intensive educational work by Extension . . . a greater challenge, a bigger opportunity.

## Learning the tractor from A to Z

■ A tractorette school is what they called it. Sounds slightly "tea shoppe," but the class was strictly business. Occasioned by the impending labor shortage, this brand-new venture was initially promoted in Louisiana by Euphrosine Deshotels, home demonstration agent in East Baton Rouge Parish.

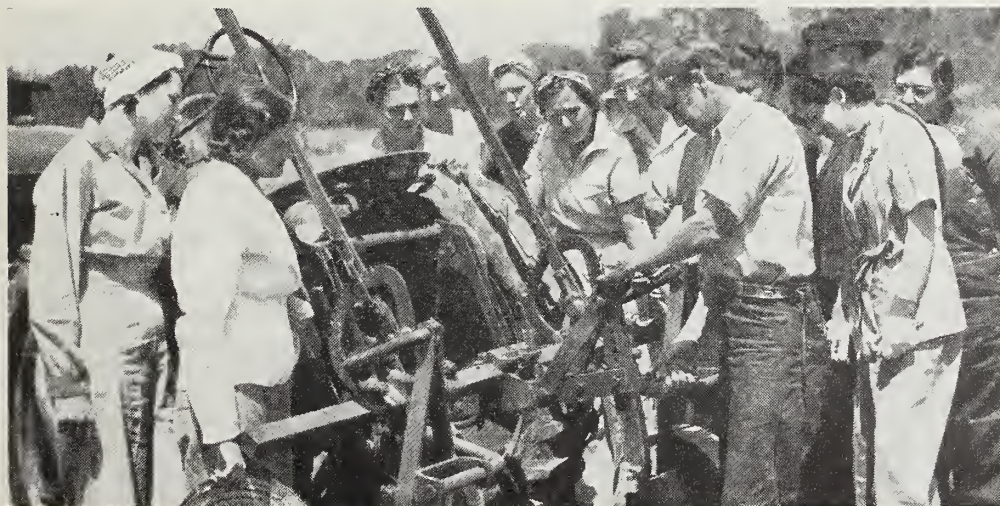
"This is thought to be the first class of its kind organized in the South," Miss Deshotels said. "It isn't just a fad or anything like that, either. It's serious business. Women make good automobile drivers in spite of all the jokes. Many have distinguished themselves as airplane pilots; and in England, Canada, Australia, and Russia women are driving ambulances, Army trucks, and cars. They are doing every sort of farm work in those

countries, and American women are ready to do just as much."

More than a score of women of East Baton Rouge Parish—some with husbands, sons, or brothers who have already been called to the colors, or who will be called shortly, met at the Hurricane ranch near Baton Rouge to organize this first class. All members were also home demonstration club members and are already taking part in activities connected with agriculture's share in the Nation's war effort.

These women took time from their gardens, their poultry yards, their sewing, cooking, canning, and preserving, to learn how to keep their farms going when their menfolk are called to fight for the defense of the Nation.

Learning all the where's and how's and when's of operating a tractor is useful when Uncle Sam calls the menfolk to do the fighting. It is up to the ones at home, such as these Louisiana home demonstration clubwomen, to keep agriculture at high levels of production and to keep provisions moving forward.



The training they received is particularly important because much heavy farm work is being done with tractors, and it is among experienced tractor drivers that one of the most critical farm labor shortages is developing.

Not only did this school start out in a regular way, but it ended like a regular school—with a baccalaureate address and presentation of diplomas. At the end of the eighth lesson, graduation ceremonies were broadcast.

M. D. Guynes, instructor from a farm machinery manufacturing company, pointed out that in the first World War women did a great deal of the farm work and that they are able to do more in this war.

"Mechanization," he said, "of both large and small farms has progressed to the point where even the slightest woman can do heavy farm work if she knows how to handle her farm machines."

Included in the series of eight lectures were the operation of the internal combustion engine with particular reference to the care and operation of tractors, and demonstrations on starting and stopping the machines. Lessons also included actual plowing. A field was plowed, and a crop planted and cultivated. Demonstrations were also given on the handling of plows and rakes and other tractor attachments.

Classes met once a week at the ranch. Each class received a total of 8 weeks' instruction, at the end of which time those who were already experienced tractor operators learned more about the mechanics of their machines; others learned to handle their machines efficiently and safely.

### 1943 labor plans

In consultation with the Director of Federal Employment Service for Oregon, the Oregon Extension Service has planned a 1943 labor service which includes a county farm labor subcommittee of the county agricultural planning committee in each county. Data will be submitted by county agents on acreage, volume of production for various crops, and seasonal reports on time of harvest. Such data will be compiled to gauge farm labor requirements. Agents will carry on general educational work in the farm labor field. This plan follows closely the cooperative relationships which were successfully maintained in 1942.

### A big school lunch garden

Twenty-five acres of vegetables on the Charleston bottom 3 miles north of Maysville supplied vegetables for county and town school lunches in Mason County, Ky. A cannery was operated in a tobacco warehouse owned by T. A. Duke who also furnished the land for the garden. Doris Van Winkle, county home demonstration agent, reports that the garden contributed much to the success of the school lunch project.



# Under a unified food command

CLAUDE R. WICKARD, *Secretary of Agriculture*

■ The war is bringing the greatest demand for American food that we have ever known. Next year, at least a quarter of our entire food production will go either to our allies or to our own fighting men. At the same time, hard-working people in this country will need more food.

A newspaper man who is with our troops in North Africa recently reported that one of the main reasons why the people there were glad to see our forces was simply that they were hungry and knew that from now on they would get more to eat.

It will take careful management to hold up our end of the battle of food next year and the years that follow. If we slip up anywhere along the line, we shall be in serious trouble. Where we slip up doesn't make much difference, for all phases of the food industry are part of one big job.

As I view my new responsibilities, they call for giving direction to a united national effort to manage our food supply wisely. I intend to cooperate fully with all the groups that are concerned with food. Every one of those groups has shown that it can deliver the goods. I have no desire to institute changes just for the sake of change. I have no more intention of doing that than I have of holding back from any actions that are clearly needed to step up essential production, to meet primary needs first, and to divide civilian supplies equitably among different parts of the country and among individuals.

To carry out our unified food program, the President has directed that the Department of Agriculture be reorganized into three divisions—those of food production, food distribution, and scientific research.

The President's order makes it possible to set up a national "assembly line" in the production and distribution of food vitally needed to win the war and peace.

I recognize fully the power and authority that the President has delegated. It shall be the obligation of the Department of Agriculture to use that power only—but to the limit—to assure an adequate supply and efficient distribution of food to meet war and essential needs.

Two new agencies are established under the Executive order. The functions, personnel, and property of any outside agencies, including those in the War Production Board, transferred to the Department as a result are a part of one of these new agencies.

Herbert W. Parisius, formerly Associate Director of the Office for Agricultural War Relations, is the new Director of Food Production, with Clifford M. Townsend, formerly Administrator of ACAA, as Associate Director. Roy F. Hendrickson, formerly Admin-

istrator of the Agricultural Marketing Administration, is the new Director of Food Distribution, with Clarence W. Kitchen, formerly Associate Administrator of AMA, as Assistant Director. Eugene C. Auchter will continue as Director of Research.

Agencies now within the Department consolidated into the Food Production Administration are the Agricultural Conservation and Adjustment Administration (except the Sugar Agency), the Farm Credit Administration, the Farm Security Administration, that part of the Division of Farm Management and Costs of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics concerned primarily with the planning of current agricultural production, and that part of the Office for Agricultural War Relations concerned primarily with food production.

Agencies now within the Department consolidated into the Food Distribution Administration are the Agricultural Marketing Administration, the Sugar Agency of the Agricultural Conservation and Adjustment Administration, that part of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Agricultural Research Administration concerned primarily with regulatory activities, and that part of the Office for Agricultural War Relations concerned primarily with food distribution.

That part of the Office for Agricultural War Relations not transferred to either of the two new administrative agencies will continue as an advisory unit of the Secretary's staff.

The Director of Information will be responsible for directing, integrating, and coordinating all information activities of the several agencies of the Department.

The status and functions of other bureaus and agencies within the Department remain unchanged.

To fit the new administrative pattern, the membership of the Agricultural War Board is reduced from 11 administrative and staff officers to 8; and the name is changed to the Departmental War Board.

Members of the streamlined Departmental War Board are: The Director of Food Production, the Director of Food Distribution, the Agricultural Research Administrator, the President of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Director of the Extension Service, the Chief of the Forest Service, the Rural Electrification Administrator, and the Chief of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

None of the food problems we are up against is solved by the mere fact of creating a unified command for food. But now we do have a better means for measuring the problems and for tackling them. Our job won't be easy.

These are the things that we can do: We can weigh the requirements that must be met;

we can harness all of our available resources to turning out the essential foods; we can allocate foods wisely among the necessary uses; we can use the civilian supplies intelligently and divide them fairly. If we produce and conserve food to the limit of our ability, I am not worried about how things will turn out.

## Farmers' problems are our problems

HERBERT W. PARISIUS, *Director of Food Production*

■ All of us in the Department of Agriculture who are concerned with food production have the responsibility of seeing that no effort is spared to help every farmer make his fullest possible contribution to the attainment of the 1943 food and fiber goals. State and county extension workers and the State colleges share this responsibility, and we know that their cooperation is going to be even more valuable now than ever before. The farmer wants to produce to the limit of his capacity. There is no question about that. He is going to have a tough job getting more production in 1943 than he did this past year. There is no question about that either. His problems are our problems, and our usefulness to him will be measured by how effective we can be in helping him to overcome them.

## Keep the food rolling

ROY F. HENDRICKSON, *Director of Food Distribution*

■ The Food Distribution Administration has been assigned the wartime job of keeping the food rolling from the farms to the battle front, as well as on the home front. To help keep it rolling, we are asking the thousands of extension workers in the agricultural communities all over the Nation to continue to put their shoulders to the wheel—and even harder than before. That extra effort on their part will make the job a better one, a more thorough one, and a faster one; and speed is essential to victory.

With its organization spanning the length and breadth of America, from the State college to the most remote hamlet, the Extension Service and its workers hold a strategic position in the battle for food. The extension worker, with his first-hand experience in solving the practical problems in production, in marketing, and in consumption, will continue to make a significant contribution to the wartime food program.

Now, as never before, we need someone who can get the word to the farmer, the dealer, and the housewife; someone on hand to help get the job done; someone to show the way and the right way; no one is in a better position to do these vital jobs than the extension worker.

Production is a big part of the job. The work of the county agents in helping farm-



ers to increase their output is paying—and will continue to pay—big dividends. But that is just part of the job. The food has to be moved *where* it is most needed, *when* it is needed. Here again the work of the county agents and of the extension workers in marketing and economics will count. And in time of war food is precious. It must be properly utilized. We must waste nothing and must get the most out of what we have. Here the work of home demonstration agents will help us to get the job done.

## Science must be utilized

EUGENE C. AUCHTER, Director of Research

Science and technology in agriculture made our industrial civilization possible. In no

other way could a comparatively small number of farmers feed all the rest of the population, freeing them for other work than primary production.

Modern warfare intensifies the problem. With production goals vastly increased in the face of shortages of labor and materials, the need for science and technology is greater than ever. The same thing holds true when it comes to making the best use of our food supply.

But science and technology can accomplish nothing unless they are *utilized*.

To see that they are utilized is to a large extent the job of the extension worker. For many years he has been the partner of the scientist. The working partnership between the county extension agent and the scientist should be closer than ever today.

# Texas finds ways of saving tires

■ Texas farm people, faced with a need to conserve not only tires and gasoline but also their time for increased war work, are finding new ways to do their jobs well.

Eighteen families of the Vanderpool community in Bandera County have designated S. A. Polvado, rancher and poultryman, as their official "hauler" because he makes frequent trips to town for feed and other poultry supplies. As the nearest trading center of any size is 35 miles away, he hauls as much as he can in his pick-up for the families in his neighborhood. In return for his services, the neighbors have signed agreements to assist in every way to see that Mr. Polvado has a good set of tires on his car. They have also agreed to call their neighbors before making trips to town in order to save everyone as many trips as possible.

The plan at Vanderpool has worked so successfully that three other neighborhoods in the county are considering it. Credit for the idea goes to J. B. Talcott, member of the County Agricultural Victory Council from the West Prong community. The county war price and rationing committee is enthusiastic about this tire-saving plan.

The "two-way haul" system not only is saving tires but it is helping farmers to market their produce. For example, in east Texas granaries and barns are full of last year's wheat, and a bumper crop was harvested early this summer. Yet, in some parts of Texas it is almost impossible to obtain whole-wheat flour and whole-wheat cereal. So counties in east and south Texas have bought co-operatively truckloads of wheat—some for poultry and hog feed, some for whole-wheat flour and cereals, exchanging a load of fruit or sirup or other produce. The grain is ground later at local gristmills.

Popularity of the roadside stand is returning, and many farmers are disposing of

their fruits, vegetables, eggs, butter, and fryers and other farm produce merely by posting a "For sale" sign on the gatepost. In some instances, "wanted" and "for sale" notices are posted on a bulletin board near the county extension agents' office. Some farmers are putting small classified ads in the newspapers with good results. Often "cash and carry" customers from nearby towns gather fruits and vegetables on farms and thus get their purchases at reduced cost, because the producer saves the cost of harvesting and transportation.

Tire rationing has forced farm families to seek recreation near home. In many sections of Texas, towns are 90 to 100 miles apart, and, before Pearl Harbor, a drive of that distance or more for an outing was not unusual. The community camp idea for a summer's outing has been tried in some parts of the State and has proved enjoyable, inexpensive, and educational.

4-H Club girls of the New Baden community in Robertson County this past summer held a camp in the woods near their neighborhood. The girls cooked on a Dutch oven and slept in the open under mosquito netting. They not only had fun, but they studied first aid and handicraft work. Too, they learned several lessons in safety and sanitation the week preceding the camp when a sanitary engineer helped to select the site for the camp, test the water, and clear away brush and snake hideouts. Some of the parents, on visiting the camp, were so much impressed that they planned to follow the example of the girls for their own summer outing.

Texans find it hard to do without tires and gasoline, but they will find a way—a patriotic way—to do without and conserve for the war effort.

## 4-H victory services

4-H home-economics clubs of Perry County, Pa., report \$1,749.25 in war savings stamps and bonds owned by members. These girls have also been active in helping to salvage some much-needed war materials. Metal, paper, rubber, wool, and rags—more than 6 tons—have been collected.

In addition to buying war stamps and bonds and to collecting scrap materials, these club members have done much in their own homes. Twenty-seven girls have remodeled 76 garments to make them useful for themselves or other members of the family. One hundred and three of the girls helped with the family garden, and 87 helped their mothers with canning and preserving food for this next winter, so that the family will be well fed. Twenty-eight of the girls canned 1,128 jars of food.

Three club members have taken the entire responsibility for housekeeping either because of illness or because their mothers are working. Other members have taken entire responsibility for bed making, dishwashing, ironing, or mending. Nearly every member has assisted with cooking, housework, or care of younger brothers and sisters to help give Mother more time. Two club members are baking bread.

Not all the victory services of the girls have been in the house or in gathering scrap or buying war stamps. Many of the girls have helped in the fields. One club member drove the tractor for harvesting. In another club of 9 members, the girls have helped with loading and hauling in 65 loads of wheat, hay, oats, and other crops. Many girls have also been busy helping to care for chickens, cleaning and grading eggs, feeding and caring for livestock, milking cows, and doing a variety of other chores around the farm.

Ninety-two percent of the 4-H Club members completed their projects in 1942, a larger percentage than have completed in any previous year, according to Ethyl M. Rathbun, home demonstration agent for Perry County.

## On the labor front

North Dakota neighborhood leaders served as key representatives in bringing to every farm information on the labor situation and measures being taken to help. They also obtained data on the farmer's labor needs to guide the labor program. In cooperation with the United States Employment Service, information was given on locating and distributing workers, and how to get the maximum use of equipment and facilities. Extension agents helped to organize volunteer labor crews in towns for work on farms.

Minnesota neighborhood leaders made a survey of production trends in their own neighborhoods and reported by name farms that were likely to be idle or curtailed in production next spring. The survey was tabulated at University Farm.



# Reviewing the facts on farm manpower

CONRAD TAEUBER, Acting Head, Division of Farm Population and Rural Welfare,  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

**"The lion's share of the planning and action will have to be done at the community level by local groups of farmers, making the most of all available manpower resources in their own communities," decides Dr. Taeuber after surveying the labor situation in relation to the increased production goals.**

■ Increasing production without any increase in the number of workers is the task which confronted American agriculture during the crop season just drawing to a close. Although production this year is approximately 13 percent greater than last year, the number of workers on farms at the peak of the season this year was approximately the same as a year ago. The mere statement that there were approximately 12 million workers on farms at the beginning of October 1941 and the same number at the beginning of October 1942, or that the same is true for the first of July in both years, is to tell only a part of the story. During the year there were many losses and these losses were especially heavy in the most vigorous groups of the farm working force, men between the ages of 18 and 45. These losses have been offset in the main by the greater use of older men, women, high school age boys and girls, and some younger children. In part they have been offset by longer work days and by more nearly full-time employment of those persons who normally are employed part time.

A recent survey made by the Department of Agriculture found that, between September 1941 and September 1942, agriculture had experienced a gross loss of about 1.6 million of its regular workers—members of farmers' families and regular hired workers. Nonfarm employment claimed the majority of these persons; 921,000 of them took on a nonfarm job, although 224,000 of these continued to live on a farm. The armed forces were reported to have drawn about 700,000 of these persons, but this figure may include some persons who went into the armed forces during a longer period than the 12-months specified. It does include persons who left farms to take nonfarm jobs and subsequently joined the armed forces; persons who would have been lost to the farm labor force, even if they had not become members of the armed forces. For the men 18-45 years old, there was a net loss of half a million, but the other groups working on farms increased by almost as many.

During the past crop year there were reports of labor shortages from many parts of the country. Increases in production, the attempt to grow crops on land that would not normally have been planted to such crops, the cultivation of some crops or varieties of

crops by growers who had little experience in their production, the favorable weather, shortages of machinery in some areas, lack of processing and transportation facilities; all contributed to the tight labor situation.

In addition, many farmers, like other employers, found that the reservoir of available workers on which they had come to count during the depression years, was no longer available. It was necessary to use persons who ordinarily would not have been used.

Furthermore, the fact that many of the more efficient workers were lost to agriculture meant that it was necessary to work more hours per day and per week, that short-cut methods were developed, that some maintenance operations and some nonessential operations were eliminated, harvesting seasons were lengthened, and many other means were used to meet the critical situation.

The Federal Government developed a program for the transportation of seasonal workers to some critical spots, and for the importation of some Mexican workers, especially for the harvesting of the long staple cotton and sugar beets. However important the efforts of the Federal Government were in some of the areas which cannot meet their labor needs from local sources, the major adjustments were those which were worked out at the local level, based on the resources of the individual farm and the local community.

Members of farm families—men, women, boys, and girls—have had to take the place of hired workers, and also of sons who found employment elsewhere or were taken into the armed forces. Even at the peak of 1942 employment, in October, the figures show that about three-fourths of all workers were farm operators or members of their families.

Many communities found themselves with only a part of the labor force which they considered as necessary for their operations, and found that in their midst there were sufficient other workers to meet the emergency. But the successful recruitment of high school boys and girls for some operations, or the effective use of businessmen, women, factory workers, or other groups of volunteers did not just happen. Where such ventures were successful, they were the result of careful planning and organization, marshaling the local leadership and working out

arrangements so that when the volunteers turned up there was really work enough to keep them busy, that the wages were commensurate with the requirements, that there was adequate housing or transportation, and that unskilled workers were taught the necessary skills. Moreover, training and supervision of the workers, where they could work in groups, was an important element.

For the large majority of farmers in most of the farming sections in the country, much of the answer to the labor problem must be sought at home, through the fullest possible utilization of the labor and machinery in their own communities and the immediately adjoining areas. As more and more labor is drawn off into war industries and the armed forces, it will become more and more difficult to attract workers from a distance into an area which can provide only a very short period of employment, for a small number of workers.

## Using the Underemployed

A complete inventory of the manpower now engaged in agriculture or available for agriculture would reveal a highly varied picture. In the more productive areas there are many farmers who need additional help, because the competition with industrial employment and the armed forces has reduced the available supply of skilled workers. But in the less productive parts of the country, despite heavy outmigration in recent years, there are still many farm workers who are underemployed, farm families who do not have the land or the capital resources to make the contributions to production of which they are capable. And in many of the more productive counties there are such families, even at the present time.

Labor shortages and a large volume of underemployment in agriculture are both true in agriculture today. And in many areas the two groups of farm families live side by side. Wisconsin has found a way of helping families in the cut-over areas to give up their farming on submarginal lands and make their efforts count for more in the more productive dairy areas. Many farm families who have been struggling along on inadequate units are ready to go to places where their labor can be more productively used, even as farm laborers. And some who will stay in the poorer areas could, with some assistance, increase their output right where they are.

If we are going to get the production which will be needed, we shall need to use effectively all the manpower now in agriculture. That will require careful planning and effective and rapid action. The lion's share of the planning and action will have to be done at the community level by local groups of farmers, making the most of all available manpower resources in their own communities and when all of those are effectively at work, calling on the appropriate public agencies for help in getting the additional workers who may be needed.



# Planning for rural fire protection

FRED V. EVERT, County Agent, Burnett County, Wis.

■ The rural area around Grantsburg, Wis., is protected from fire by an unusual and efficient method. The principles of democratic cooperation, as they have been applied in setting up the Grantsburg Rural Fire Protection Association, make an interesting story.

Two years ago the village was protected by one fire truck and a volunteer fire department, but the farms for several miles around had no protection. When a rural fire occurred and the village fire truck responded, the village was left entirely without fire-fighting equipment while the truck traveled in the country to give help. The companies which insured property in Grantsburg did not like to have the village left without fire protection. Then, too, the village fire fighters received no pay for their trips into the country. Something had to be done. Some new plan for rural fire fighting was necessary. The village officials appreciated the good will of the people in the surrounding farm community and wanted to continue to be of service in putting out rural fires, but they were faced with higher insurance rates in the village if they continued to send their equipment into the country.

At the annual firemen's banquet on January 3, 1940, the subject of rural fire fighting was thoroughly discussed and a proposition developed which has proved its soundness in the past 2 years. It was proposed that the Grantsburg Fire Department buy a new fire truck and other equipment for a total cost of about \$2,500. The new equipment was to be purchased for rural use only, and its cost was to be prorated among the nearby townships

of Anderson, West Marshland, Wood River, Trade Lake, Daniels, and Grantsburg. The population of each township was determined, and the \$2,500 was divided among the 6 townships according to the population. Each of these townships was invited to appropriate its share and to join the Rural Fire Protection Association. The money was appropriated at the township meetings and the truck was bought. Each township was organized as part of the Grantsburg Fire Department with a captain and about 20 volunteer fire fighters who are associate members of the Grantsburg Fire Department and are covered by insurance in case of accident.

Now when a fire occurs in one of these townships, a call is sent to the Grantsburg Fire Department; and the rural fire truck and about six volunteer fire fighters from the village are sent out. In the meantime, the telephone operator rings a general call in the neighborhood of the fire; and the volunteer firemen who live nearby load milk cans filled with water into their cars and rush to the fire.

There has been no expense to the townships or the village for rural fire protection since the purchase of the original equipment. The cost of repairs and a small fee of about \$1 per man for fire duty is paid out of a fund built up by money paid by the insurance companies for fire protection. The Trade Lake Mutual Fire Insurance Co. pays the association \$10 per call and \$15 per fire put out for their policyholders. The other insurance companies are glad to pay similar amounts for services to their policy holders.

## Radio service extension program

F. P. TAYLOR, County Agent, Jefferson County, Ohio

■ Long before the Japs caused the transportation crisis, we were making extensive use of radio in reaching farmers not only in Jefferson County but in a much larger area. Although farmers are not able to attend extension meetings they are receiving their information over the radio. The Jefferson County Extension Service was active in helping to set up the Tri-State Farm and Home Hour program which has been heard regularly over Radio Station WWVA in Wheeling for the past 7 years. WWVA has been a 5,000-watt station but is now or will soon have power increased to 50,000 watts.

The quarterly program is worked out in a meeting of participants 1 month prior to the beginning of the quarter. The program is set

in a mythical "Cross road store" with the various persons dropping into the store to chat with the storekeeper concerning rural affairs in the Tri-State area. In one broadcast in which Ohio Extension Bulletin No. 76, control of Garden Insects and Diseases, was rather consistently plugged, a total of more than 260 mail requests for the bulletin were received from points as far west as Coshocton, Ohio, as far north as Erie, Pa., as far east as Altoona, Pa., and as far south as the northern edge of Virginia.

The occasional participation in the Saturday noon farm programs of KDKA, a 50,000-watt station in Pittsburgh, Pa., has been in the nature of an interview with the farm director of KDKA on some subject of timely interest

to rural folks in the entire coverage area of KDKA. The participation in the early morning farm hour broadcasts from 6 to 7 o'clock from the same station has consisted of transcriptions made by the agent with the farm director while in Pittsburgh for the Saturday noon broadcast.

Some time after Radio Station WSTV was established in Steubenville as a 250-watt station, an invitation was given for the Jefferson County Extension office to reach more intimately the farmers in Jefferson County. At the present time, the Extension Service has four regular broadcasts each week over WSTV. On Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings from 7 to 7:15 o'clock, I broadcast a "Friendly farm chat," attempting to weave in as many local names as possible and to use material from Extension Services of both Ohio and West Virginia. These chats are largely ad lib from notes rather than from prepared script. This program is advertised in various ways, especially by a stamp on many letters going out to folks in the county.

In addition to the "Friendly farm chat" broadcast, a regular Extension Service broadcast is given over WSTV at 9:45 to 10:00 a. m. each Tuesday. Under the present arrangement, the home demonstration agent takes three of these broadcasts each month. The county agent takes the first and fifth Tuesdays (if there is a fifth Tuesday in the month). In addition to the regular farm chats and the Extension Service broadcast, special broadcasts in person and by transcriptions such as 4-H Mobilization Week and the report of county 4-H delegates to the Ohio 4-H Club Congress are put on occasionally in the evening over WSTV.

Time arrangements are being made with the program director for neighborhood or home recreation broadcasts. At first, this broadcast of a half hour duration will be put on once a month, probably on Saturday evening. A group of eight rural people of various ages will be assembled in the studio and, under the directions of the agent, which will be put on the air, will play various table games, mental games, group games, and musical games (square dances) suitable for small family or neighborhood groups. Publicity to be given preceding the broadcasts will urge folks in Jefferson County to have groups of at least eight people meet in homes where a radio is available and play the games as directed over the air. At the close of the broadcast, the groups will be urged to play again for an hour or so the games that have been introduced on the broadcast. It is hoped that this new recreation broadcast will help Jefferson County folk to enjoy themselves in their own home neighborhoods, making of them better home folks, better neighbors, and better citizens.

I am firmly convinced that the time I spend preparing for and putting on radio broadcasts is much more productive of results than several times the same amount of time spent in conducting agricultural extension work by other means.



## Visual aids on gardening

In Pennsylvania, we are preparing for a much larger service to home gardeners, or Victory Gardeners, for the coming year. The 2 films on home gardening are being revamped and retitled. Sets of 40 slides each are being made up from our collection of about 1,000 Kodachromes (2- by 2-inch) for duplication. These sets are titled and include all phases of home gardening, from preparation of the soil to storage of garden products. Ten duplicate sets will be available for use of county agricultural agents and other extension workers. Having extra sets will also save expense and travel in an emergency. Both Professor Huffington, horticulture specialist, and I each will have a good set for our own use. Many county agents, in fact, most of them, are equipped to take 2- by 2-inch Kodachrome slides and are making a collection of home-gardening slides from photographs taken in their own counties.—*W. B. Nissley, vegetable gardening extension specialist, Pennsylvania.*

## Good dairy heifers to replenish herds on Nebraska farms

In line with the request for more dairy production, 4-H dairy-calf club members and farmers in Nebraska added 2,700 head of high-quality dairy heifers as foundation females to their herds in 1942. Since April 1, through the efforts of Dale Stewart, president of Nebraska Cooperative Creameries Association, 4-H leaders, farmers, local bankers, and agricultural extension agents, 25 counties have been able to get shipments of these good young dairy heifers into their communities.

These calves were shipped in from the dairy sections of Wisconsin and Minnesota, where more of the milk is being used for making condensed and dried milk and cheese, and less is kept on the farms for feeding calves. Because of the higher prices paid for milk in these areas, the dairy farmers there are willing to sell more of their heifer calves.

Between 60 and 70 percent of all the heifers shipped into Nebraska were brought into 107 4-H dairy-calf clubs in these communities. These clubs have reached an all-time high in membership this past year.—*M. L. Flack, extension dairyman, Nebraska.*

## Getting in Wyoming sugar beets

After 2 weeks' work, the L. A. K. ranch, 5 miles east of Newcastle, Wyo., still had 180 acres of sugar beets left to harvest of the original 215 acres:

No additional beet workers were available. The situation was serious, especially in this area where early freezes and snow are the rule rather than the exception.

H. G. Berthelson, county agricultural agent in Weston County, took immediate steps to improve the situation. The Newcastle Lions

# ONE WAY TO DO IT! Methods tried and found good

Club responded to the county agent's call; and more than 20 members, including men from all walks of life, descended upon the beet field, pulling and topping with vigor unheard of. With the members divided into teams, a contest was in full sway, the losers to furnish a "feed" and an evening's entertainment to the winners.

Other townspeople were stirred by this patriotic effort, and offered assistance in the beet fields.

School children, both boys and girls, also assisted. Money they received is being used to pay class dues and build up activity funds.

In Big Horn County, Wyo., the businessmen of Lovell kept their stores closed until 1 p. m. to allow all available men to go into the fields and help with the beet digging. Two other towns of Basin and Greybull closed the business places for two half days a week. The high school closed, and 200 boys and girls gave a good account of their work in the beet fields. A sugar company estimated that the value of the beet crop on those farms where no labor was available was more than \$400,000 for the beets alone.

In this venture, as well as during the harvest season, the county agent has taken the lead in the procurement and distribution of workers.

## A live nutrition demonstration

For years and years in our nutrition teaching we have been using charts and pictures to drive home the importance of right eating. We have been showing people and telling people what to eat, how to eat, and why. We have been telling them about spectacular results of experiments in the feeding of animals and then applying the lessons to their problems of human nutrition; and, with these methods, we have achieved a distinct measure of success.

But a step beyond showing pictures and charts and telling people about animal experiments in nutrition is to bring the animal experiment to them. Two white rats, in separate cages, were used for a demonstration which lasted 8 weeks. The cages were made entirely of wire mesh, set in shallow cake-pans, with paper towels laid in the pans. This made cleaning the cages an easy task. The

mesh of the cages was of such size that the food and water containers could be filled through the mesh without opening the cages. A full diet was used for one rat and a diet lacking in vitamins A and B for the other. As there was such a marked difference in growth of the rats, it was not necessary to weigh them each day. Dry diet formulas were used to simplify feeding.

This demonstration was used in the teaching of nutrition before homemakers' clubs, 4-H Clubs, Red Cross nutrition classes, and school groups, including one-room schools, elementary and high-school assemblies, high-school science and home economics classes, and the student body of a small local college where there is no home economics department.

Local editors gave much space to this demonstration because of its novelty; and a Main Street beauty-shop owner housed the rat demonstration, together with appropriate charts, in her show window for 10 days. A broadcast featuring nutrition teaching in the county and the rat-feeding experiments ended the demonstration. Teachers reported that children who saw it increased their purchases of milk and asked for whole-wheat bread sandwiches in school lunchrooms. Many adults also reported the use of more milk and whole-grain foods, and a large number of people reported that they were more convinced of the effect of proper diet on health.—*Adeline M. Hoffman, home demonstration agent, Carroll County, Md.*

## Victory harvest displays

The acme of the Better Farm Living Program was reached through community victory harvest displays put on jointly by the Better Farm Living Committee and the agricultural chairmen of the County Council of Farm Women. Nine community agricultural victory harvest displays were attended by 202 people.

Better farm living has been the theme of our agricultural program this year. Our leaders joyfully entered the plans suggested by the community home demonstration clubs to put on an agricultural victory harvest display. Each community made plans, appointed committees, and a suggested exhibit list was published, and arrangements made for the display to be at the home of a committee member. Publicity was given for a community-wide activity. The home demonstration agent went early to assist the leaders in arrangements for the exhibit. Tables were improvised in the shade of the trees for the exhibits. A full afternoon was enjoyed at the "fair."

Although exhibits did not need to be trucked in on rubber tires, they displayed the abundance of home-produced and home-processed foods which are stored for winter use.

On display were canned fruits, vegetables, and meats, fresh produce from gardens and orchards, watermelons, pumpkins, potatoes, milk, butter, home-made American cheese,





dried fruits, an attractive collection of seeds, native rice, wheat, oats, barley, rye, home-ground flour, meal, hominy, cane sirup, honey, whole ham, bacon and lard, crates of eggs, edible soybeans, peanuts, yellow and white corn, cut flowers, potted plants, cows, hogs, chickens, and exhibits of thrift and antiques.

The farm and home agents had charge of the entertaining and instructive amusement program. The home agent pointed out the fact that farm women will be expected to do men's work on the farm while the men are in service. To make her talk practical, the women and men were asked to judge the corn exhibit for the selection of eggs and seed corn for marketing. Neighbors brought their cows to be judged by men and women, after which the farm agent gave a demonstration in selecting a good milk cow. The crowd inspected the poultry flock and poultry buildings, and many were amazed at the profits realized from a well-housed, well-fed flock of poultry. A dem-

onstration on building terraces was put on by the soil-conservation unit. The women not only observed this demonstration, but one rode the tractor. She had driven a tractor at home in other work and wanted to learn, by doing, to build a terrace.

When we had finished seeing the exhibits and drinking the fruit juice, the farmhouse was open for inspection. It was a joy to find farm homes equipped with electric lights, refrigerators, kitchen cabinets, space for storage, and comfortable living quarters. This is indeed better farm living.

Our Victory harvest displays show us that farm families are food-conscious and have made themselves more self-sufficient by greater production and conservation of foods. These folk have always canned, and this year the quantity of conserved food will show an increase of about 35 percent.—*Kerby Tyler, home demonstration agent, Chesterfield County, S. C.*

## Farmers organize to control fires

■ "Help win the war—prevent fire—eliminate fire hazards"—"Don't be a flipper—use your ash tray" and similar warnings blaze forth in bold red letters to ask everyone to do his part in preventing destructive fires.

Increased danger from fires is one of the problems the war has brought farmers. Many wartime dangers such as bombs, arsonists, labor shortage, and the increased tempo of war work have been added this year.

In the rural fire-control program the Extension Service is giving particular attention to fire prevention on farms by getting farmers to eliminate fire hazards and to have fire-fighting equipment on their farms.

Almost 10,000 rural fire-fighting companies were organized in 1942 to protect America's farms against destructive fires. Of the 100,000 men enrolled in these volunteer fire companies all have received or are receiving or-

ganized training in fire prevention and fire control. That a real need exists for trained fire fighters is evidenced by the fact that fires kill almost 3,500 people in rural areas every year, and that the value of rural property destroyed runs about \$200,000,000 every year. This is a loss that the individual and the Nation can ill afford.

Activities in fire prevention are being carried on in different ways all over the country.

4-H Club members of Rhode Island are helping the organized volunteer fire companies throughout the State. Several months before the disastrous forest fire in Spring the Little Compton older club members had volunteered to their local volunteer fire company, and, as a war measure, had been trained in the operation and manipulation of the pumper, hose, and auxiliary equipment. During the fires 4-H members filled the ranks of hundreds

of hastily mustered fire fighters. Edith Ferguson, a 4-H Club member of West Greenwich—one of the centers of the devastating fires—was awarded the Red Cross citation for her sustained service in the canteen units.

In White Pine County, Nev., the rural fire board organized a fine group of crews for protecting that area. The board is a unit of Civilian Defense to handle rural fire protection work. The county coordinator says that the rural crews have effectively controlled all fires, and he believes that they can keep any rural fire from spreading beyond the size of a minor fire if it is reported in a reasonable time.

Recognizing the need for a better organized set-up with more adequate equipment to fight rural fires, the fire chief of Worthington, Minn., took the matter up with the city council. After this meeting he talked with the chairman of the town board of Worthington to learn if there was any interest in the purchase of a rural fire truck. Favorable response was obtained immediately, and with this nucleus a meeting was called of the town boards of four of the townships adjacent to Worthington. Representatives of the Worthington Fire Department explained the need for rural fire-fighting equipment and assured the townships that Worthington would house new equipment and furnish the service to operate the truck for country fires, provided the townships would buy the equipment. The township boards purchased the truck. Although service was initiated by the four townships adjacent to Worthington the equipment is used generally for all farms within reach.

In Colorado the town of Nucla and the farmers within a radius of 10 miles are co-operating in purchasing a fire truck fully equipped. This equipment arrived on June 22 and has already paid for itself, having saved three farm houses from a grass and brush fire which occurred on June 26.

The Connecticut Extension Service is actively cooperating with both the State Defense Council and the State Forestry Department in furthering the work of rural fire protection. Extension foresters are the Extension representatives to coordinate the efforts of all agencies for better rural fire prevention and protection.

About ten 4-H Fire Patrols have been organized in critical fire areas in Connecticut. These patrols consist of 10 to 20 older boys. Their equipment is the same as that of forest fire-fighting crews plus additional material such as trucks and lights, which the boys acquire themselves. These crews are important for such a crew can handle a grass or small forest fire as well as a crew of men. Also, on safe days, they often do protective burning of high hazard areas, thus eliminating danger of a bad fire at a later date. By their answering calls of a minor nature the adult crew is relieved of the necessity of dropping important work (often in a defense industry) to answer such alarms.



# Where is the help coming from?

New goals call for greater production. Many farmers ask, "Where is the help coming from?" Secretary Wickard says "Without question the most difficult problem for next year is having enough people to carry on the necessary production." With these war needs in mind, some experiences of the past season in mobilizing city youth for work on farms in Vermont and Maryland are reviewed here.

## Vermont's volunteer land corps

■ Well-known and well-organized effort to relieve the labor shortage by mobilizing youth in the city was called the Volunteer Land Corps, initiated by Dorothy Thompson, columnist. The Land Corps recruited 626 boys and girls from city high schools and placed them on farms in Vermont and New Hampshire. They lived and worked on individual farms—for the most part, on general dairy farms. Eighty percent of them worked throughout the season of 2 or 3 months. A few have remained to work all year.

Most recruits came from New York, where a land-corps meeting was held in one school in each borough. Notwithstanding all manners of probable hardships described, the response to join the corps was so great that a limit of 12 was fixed as the maximum number which would be accepted from any one school. Boys had to be at least 16 years of age, girls at least 18, with a signed statement from their physician as to their capability of performing hard physical labor. Each candidate also had to have the consent of parents or guardians.

An effort was made through interviews and letters of reference to choose reliable, conscientious young people with stamina and emotional stability who could best adapt themselves to new conditions of living.

The Land Corps worked closely with the United States Employment Service, the Extension Service, and farm organizations in placing young people and helping them to adjust to their new environments.

These young people received \$21 a month and board and room. Some who did exceptionally well were paid wage increases; however, the whole effort was not put on a financial basis but, rather, was an appeal to idealism.

On completion of the summer's work, the whole project was reported and a careful study made of methods and results. Experience during the summer showed that better methods of selection would have been helpful. A city 4-H Club could do much to weed out the temperamentally unsuitable and give some pre-training to the remainder.

Success is measured in part by the satisfaction of farmers employing land-corps recruits. They report that the effort to teach young folks was worth the trouble and that the young folks did help in farm production. Most of them indicated their willingness to employ another volunteer next summer.

Wishing to expand the work of the Volunteer Land Corps, Miss Thompson presented the report of the season's work to Secretary Wickard, Director Wilson, and the extension staff in Washington and, later, to the directors of extension attending the Land-Grant College Association meeting in Chicago. A Department committee was appointed to study the situation under the chairmanship of Director Wilson, including O. E. Mulliken, OAWR; James S. Heizer, FSA; J. W. Coddington, ACAA; and P. A. Thompson of the Forest Service. The Association of Land-Grant Colleges endorsed the movement after careful consideration, and Director I. O. Schaub, of North Carolina, and Director L. A. Bevan, of New Jersey, were appointed to formulate plans for organization on a national basis.

Miss Thompson has felt that the Extension Service should take over the Land Corps. In her syndicated column she said: "There is an

## City high school boys work on Maryland farms

■ Two plans for training and utilizing city high school boys for labor on farms were tried in Maryland during the past season.

The first plan dealt with boys from high schools in Baltimore City. In carrying through the project there was close cooperation between the Extension Service, the State farm organizations, the school officials in Baltimore, and the McDonogh School, a private institution situated 15 miles from Baltimore.

It was recognized in the beginning that three distinct steps were involved—enrolling the boys, training them, and placing them on farms.

All high schools in Baltimore were visited and the proposition explained to the boys, and they were offered an opportunity to enroll.

The plan provided that, beginning on April 4, the boys would be transported by bus to the McDonogh School each Saturday, from the end of the streetcar lines, until the close of the high-school year in June, that they would be given training without cost, and a job on a farm at the end of the period.

The McDonogh School afforded ideal facilities and personnel for the training. On its

already established agency of Government with long and deep experience which could take over this problem and solve it in a great, constructive way. To my mind, and after intimate experience with the problem last summer, there is only one such Federal agency. That is the Extension Service of the Agriculture Department."

The plan suggested by the committee of directors called for county agents or farmers appearing before school groups to tell about the situation on farms, and for the county agents to assist in pretraining the young folk in such ways as tours to farms during the winter months, and interpreting through pamphlets the conditions under which the recruits would work. These pamphlets could be distributed to the young folk. The Extension Service could set up county farm committees which would cooperate in selecting the actual farms where young people would be placed, and share in the supervision, making frequent personal visits to the Land Corps workers and in helping them to find a place in the local community life, introducing them to 4-H Clubs, youth organizations, and local farm organizations.

The report on the Volunteer Land Corps for the summer of 1942 lists these indispensable essentials to the program: Adequate supervision by a qualified and competent staff; community group activities that stimulate an esprit de corps both for the group and for work in the national service, and healthy recreation.

800-acre farm were herds and flocks, machinery and equipment, and the kinds of crops found on the majority of farms. The headmaster of the school and his staff were thoroughly experienced in training and dealing with boys.

A few more than 400 boys started the training. They were divided into groups of 10, with an instructor for each group and put to work at the tasks that must be performed on farms. Included were such tasks as cleaning dairy barns, brushing the cows, white-washing fences and the interior of buildings, pitching hay, harnessing and driving horses, operating tractors, and other similar tasks that are not familiar to city boys, but are an essential part of farm operation.

At the end of the training period 335 boys were considered available for jobs on farms. Some of those who started had made other arrangements, and some were not considered by their instructors as likely to be successful at farm work.

County extension agents in the five counties nearest to Baltimore were asked to receive applications from farmers who desired one or more of the boys for work on their farms.



Reports from county agents in the counties where the boys were placed are unanimous in the opinion that the project was a success and should be repeated and enlarged next year. No doubt, some modifications in procedure will appear wise after the experience this year is more completely known.

The plan for training boys from high schools in Washington, D. C., and placing them on Maryland farms followed an entirely different pattern.

Farm leaders in Montgomery County, which is adjacent to the District of Columbia, began to seek sources of the needed farm labor. Officers of the Farm Bureau, the county extension agent, and the county superintendent of schools devised a plan for giving boys in Washington high schools some preliminary training and making them available for work on farms. Instead of one or more boys being placed on a farm for the summer or a given period, the boys were to be quartered at four high schools within the county, with a supervisor for each group. Any farmer desiring help could make application to the supervisor of the group at his nearest school for the number of boys desired. They would be transported to his farm and returned to the school by bus. The high schools would provide dormitory space and morning and evening meals, when desired.

Only three Saturdays were available for training before the end of the school year. There being no place especially adapted for

the training, the boys were divided into groups of 25, each with an instructor, and sent to farms where they could be given practice in various kinds of farm tasks.

It was necessary to provide a supervisor for each of the four schools where the boys were quartered. Teachers of vocational agriculture were obtained for these jobs. It was necessary also to have drivers for the four busses that transported the boys to and from work, and a cook for each school. A budget of the probable expense was prepared by the county agent, the county superintendent of schools, and farm leaders, which was presented to the board of county commissioners with a request that necessary funds be appropriated as a war measure. The county commissioners provided the funds.

In this plan, each boy was paid by the farmers for whom he worked at the rate of 25 cents an hour and his noon meal. He was provided his morning and evening meals and his meals on rainy days, or other days when he did not work, at a nominal cost by the cafeteria in the school where he was quartered.

The maximum number of boys on the job at one time was 126 and the minimum 68. Approximately 100 boys were at farm work for 10 weeks. Reports from farmers as to their satisfaction with the work and the plan are favorable, and the leaders in the project are making plans for repeating it on a larger scale next year.

**Baltimore City high-school boys get a little practice Saturday afternoon in the garden of the McDonogh School.**



**CERTIFIED SEED FOR RUSSIA** is being contributed by American farmers through their State Crop Improvement Associations. Director M. L. Wilson is serving as honorary chairman of the Seed Committee of Russian War Relief and recently brought the work of the committee to the attention of farmers in a Nation-wide radio talk. All kinds of seed are wanted—ordinary garden seed, carrots,

radishes, lettuce, squash, cabbage, onions, tomatoes, beets, and turnips, as well as field crops such as corn and sorghums, soybeans, grains, and clovers.

■ A Texas culling chart gives graphically the essentials of poultry culling in a simple and usable form and will be valuable in meeting the new poultry goals.

## Some methods used to bring in the 1942 harvest

### Children help

Several thousand New York school children were released for not more than 15 days of farm work. Exact numbers are not available, but the number is probably more than double the 19,000 released in the fall of 1941. Many worked on their parents' farms; others were from villages and cities, and worked wherever they were needed. Losses of fruits and vegetables because of labor shortage were extremely small in New York, according to T. N. Hurd, specialist in agricultural economics and farm management.

Working with the United States Employment Service, the Student Service Commission, and vocational agriculture teachers, between 400 and 500 high-school students in New Jersey were placed on farms to relieve peak labor-load shortages.

### College students released

South Dakota State College students 1,200 strong, both boys and girls, scattered over the State during a 2-week recess from classes in October to work on farms. Most of the students went back to the home farm to help, but those who lived in towns or cities obtained farm jobs through the United States Employment Service.

Students of the University of Pennsylvania with the sanction of school authorities and cooperation of the Farm Placement Service organized a land army of their own to go out on Saturdays and Sundays and help farmers to harvest their crops. They were allowed partial "gym" credits for the work.

### All resources utilized

High school and junior high school students, topped and harvested sugar beets in many of the sugar-beet areas of the State of Montana, working shoulder to shoulder with 740 young men from the Montana State College and available crews of Japanese, Mexican, Negro, and Indian workers. The organization and managing of many of the volunteer crews, which also included many adults, was largely handled by Extension workers, cooperating with school authorities, Employment Service officials, and civic representatives.

Texans registered school children for farm work in 97 of their 109 counties, women in 58 counties, and in 40 counties employed most of the townspeople during harvest peaks.

### Cotton-picking days

To keep up with wartime demands for cotton, cotton-picking days have been held in north Georgia counties. Active in sponsoring these days have been Victory Volunteers, or farm men and women neighborhood leaders.



# Extension's contribution toward better living in a problem area

CLAUDE A. BARNETT, Special Assistant to the Secretary of Agriculture

Secretary Claude R. Wickard appointed two special assistants, Dr. F. D. Patterson of Tuskegee Institute and Claude A. Barnett, director of the Associated Negro Press, to aid in marshaling the efforts of the Negro farmer, particularly in the South, in the Food for Freedom program.

These two men, active in the affairs of their race and deeply interested in agricultural problems, have concluded a survey which took them into 15 Southern States, a section with which both of them are intimate. This article by Claude Barnett comments on the role which they found Extension playing in the lives of our Negro farm families.

■ As Secretary Claude R. Wickard frequently points out, there is no more important role to be played in the war effort, which is engulfing our country, than the part which depends on the American farmer. To produce the food which will be needed by our soldiers, our allies, our own workmen, and our families, we shall need the services of every bit of manpower and womanpower which we can bring to the task. Undoubtedly, the Extension Service is one of the most effective instruments in providing this necessary and accelerated production.

Every section of the Nation must play its part, but the South would appear to be in a particularly strategic position to be of great service. Its long seasons, its natural resources, and its unused acreage will permit the Southern States to increase manyfold their food production whenever it becomes necessary to go all out in the development of a greater food supply.

The South, too, probably has, on its small farms particularly, our greatest resource of agricultural manpower not being fully used. The traditional character of the usual crops and the lack of employment opportunities between harvest and planting times keep many farm workers in that section idle a great part of their time. There is the tremendous mass of Negro farm labor available and waiting only to be guided into the greatest possible usefulness.

Some idea of the possibilities in this reservoir lies in the manner in which the Negro farm family caught the spirit and entered into the Food for Freedom program this past year. In our recent visits to every section of the rural South, the number, the size, and the variety of Victory Gardens being grown by colored people were amazing. There were areas where we had observed on previous tours only a few years ago that good gardens were rarely found. This was especially true on plantations where commissaries were still in vogue and on small farms where there appeared to be an almost total lack of knowledge of the food value in a well-planned and diversified home garden. Today, however, it

is fair to say that in most sections the family without some sort of garden is the exception. Many of them are fine, good-looking plots brimming with leafy vegetables and a number of varieties.

It did not appear that a great deal of this new production of food was finding its way into trade, but it is accomplishing two things. The families with gardens are not depleting food stores in nearby towns; and, for the first time in many instances, their own families are being exposed to better-balanced diets. The result is better health, more strength, and availability for other tasks.

Although many agencies concentrated on the food program, our observations left us secure in the feeling that the spearhead of the development, among Negro farmers especially, was the Extension Service. Their activity in heeding the call to grow more foodstuffs is merely an indication of how much more productive the Negro farmers can be to the South and to the country if the sort of understanding and encouragement which Extension brings to them can only be widened and deepened.

There were, at the last census, 672,214 Negro farm operators in the South, something less than a third of the farms operated in that section. They form a large percentage of the entire Negro population of the United States and, together with the white small farmers, tenants, and sharecroppers in the South, represent the lowest-income families in the entire country.

Here is a great mass of people caught in the toils of a one-crop system, with appalling illiteracy, poor schools, few health provisions, and little purchasing power. As a result, they are of little service to themselves and in many instances a burden on their section. That they can be made an asset to the South, that they can measure up to the fullest stature of American citizenship if given fair help and opportunity is beyond question. There are many governmental agencies, and particularly agricultural agencies, which are pointed in the right direction to help in these problems if only their programs were large enough or

could be driven deep enough to reach these folk who are at the very bottom of our Nation's economic life. As far as Negro farm families are concerned, Extension predominantly, points the way, by virtue of the educational character of its services and the far more extensive use of Negro personnel than in any of the other groups.

So outstanding has been the effort of Extension that other agencies turn to it for aid in carrying out their work when Negro farmers are involved. This is because, recognizing the fact that the biracial system in the South gives far greater opportunity for service when Negro leadership is supplied and Negro workers permitted to work with their own people in responsible posts, Extension has an established leadership which has demonstrated its worth.

Actually, the Negro county extension agent and the Negro home demonstration agent are doing one of the finest missionary jobs to be found in any field. They are educators working with adults who had little opportunity to learn while young; they are guides who point out, in the most elementary fashion, methods of living, techniques of farming, rules of conduct, even the simpler things which a man and his wife and his family might be expected to know.

Everybody in the county leans on the county and home demonstration agents among colored people. Even the agencies headed by white people, civic as well as governmental, recognize that these apostles of better living are doing a job of practical life building which is difficult to excel. It is not that many white county agents do not have an honest interest in Negro life and people. Each of these county agents has a full job on his hands conducting his office. The manifold duties brought about by the many new regulations and innovations which exist today do not leave time or the opportunity for him to serve properly both the white and colored populations, even if he could really get inside the lives of his colored constituency, which in most instances he cannot.

The chief trouble with Negro extension people is largely a quantitative one; there simply are not enough of them. These workers must serve a people whose advantages have been meager and whose opportunities are fewer. On the basis of illiteracy, poverty, and need, for a given number of farmers, there is greater need for colored workers than for white.

Today there are 526 Negro county extension workers, 282 men and 244 women, to serve the entire South. If there were a county agricultural and home demonstration agent in only those counties where there are a minimum of 500 Negro rural families or more, it would require approximately 500 more agents.

These practical missionaries have demonstrated their value. Along with the other agricultural agencies which are so important to the lives of our farmers and, therefore, to our Nation, we salute the Extension Service and hope for a development which will enable a fulfillment of all its possibilities.



# None too young to help in Missouri

■ The all-out efforts of Missouri farm youngsters in food production, scrap collecting, bond sales, and other important war work look bad for the Axis, as shown by reports taken at random over the State. Instances of youthful stamina and industry cited here are typical of responses of farm boys and girls to war needs.

The three Clizer boys, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Clizer of Andrew County, have contributed to Uncle Sam's food storehouse with their 4-H Club projects this year, and at the same time have had a good time, according to County Extension Agent Paul Doll. Altogether, they have produced 5,490 pounds of pork, 1,900 pounds of beef, 625 pounds of broilers, 840 pounds of vegetables, and 60 bushels of corn.

Herbert, 13 years old, raised the champion-ship ton litter of 15 pigs entered at the interstate baby-beef and pig-club show at St. Joseph—a litter weighing 3,370 pounds. He had a baby beef which weighed 1,000 pounds, and he also produced several hundred pounds of vegetables.

Herman, 12 years old, raised a litter of eight hogs that weighed 2,120 pounds and a calf that weighed 900 pounds. He also raised 625 pounds of poultry, and to help in the feeding of his projects he produced 60 bushels of corn from 1 acre of his father's farm.

Ten-year-old Harold had a garden project of tomatoes, from which 480 pounds were used on the family table or canned. Mrs. Kenneth Clizer is leader of the 4-H Club of which the boys are members.

The 4-H Victory Garden of Bobby, Hayden, and Harold Kennen means a lot to the Henry Kennen family in Wayne County. Bobby had a potato project this year from which he harvested 75 bushels of potatoes. He will store enough for family use and sell the remainder. Hayden's tomato project has provided the family with fresh tomatoes since June 17. He sold 10 bushels from his early plants, and the family expected to can at least 200 quarts from the late patch. Harold raised 23 bushels of green beans from which 125 quarts were canned, in addition to all the fresh beans needed.

Eleven-year-old Doris Hershey of the Jones Creek 4-H Club in Newton County has demonstrated how even young farm children are helping with food production and conservation and other important war work. In addition to completing her 3 club projects, she helped her mother to can 600 quarts of fruit, vegetables, and meat. With her 9-year-old brother, Kenneth, Doris collected and sold more than 3,000 pounds of scrap iron, 175 pounds of rubber, and some rags and paper. The children worked in the hayfield this summer and assisted in growing a Victory Garden of 22 kinds of vegetables. This fall, the chil-

dren have collected and sold walnuts for war purposes.

Members of the Coldwater rural youth group in St. Louis County are demonstrating the many ways in which rural young people can be of service on the home front. Thirty of the members, working on farms or in defense industries, are using 10 percent of their incomes for the purchase of war bonds and stamps. Several have boosted this percentage to more than 25 percent, and every member is buying some bonds and stamps. At a rally recently, the group sold \$1,100 worth of bonds and stamps in one evening.

The group recently began using the plan whereby a member of the organization writes to all the boys from the community now in the armed forces at least 1 day in the month. By this method, the boys get regular daily news from the club members at home. At each club meeting the members bring gifts which are all put together and sent to one boy in the service. In this way the boys are remembered regularly.

Although Mary Faith Berghaus of St. Francois County is only 9 years old, she drove the tractor this summer on her family's 125-acre farm. The father, Roy Berghaus, serves his country as a first-class seaman with the Pacific Fleet while Mrs. Berghaus and her 3 young daughters who are under 10 years of age carry on the farm work. During the summer, they tended 10 head of cattle, 7 hogs, a big family garden, and the poultry flock. Their work also included preparing the ground and seeding 15 acres of oats, 15 acres of Sudan grass, and the harvesting of 30 acres of hay. Outside help was employed only 1½ days.

## Have you read?

**The Farm Primer.** Walter Magnes Teller. 266 pp. David McKay Co., Philadelphia, Pa. 1942.

The Farm Primer is the title of a recent 266-page book written by Walter Magnes Teller and published by David McKay Co. of Philadelphia, Pa. Mr. Teller is a general farmer in Bucks County, Pa., with a background of experience with the Federal Security Administration. The book is intended primarily for the beginning, part-time, subsistence, or small farmer and applies particularly to farming in the northeastern United States. It covers in brief form a rather broad range of subjects, including farm buildings, farm tools and machinery, soils and tillage, water supplies, livestock, gardening, farm planning and financing, and the Federal and State educational and service agencies available to the farmer for his help and guidance.

The chapter on livestock includes the raising of poultry and bees, rabbits, cavies, game, fur-bearing animals, and other birds and animals.

The appendix contains various convenient tables, including a timetable for doing farm chores. Throughout the book, supplemental references are given to various helpful books and to outstanding United States Department of Agriculture and State experiment station bulletins that may be obtained from these institutions upon request.

The book will be found helpful to those who may be thinking of getting a small piece of land to earn all or part of their living from it and also to small farmers who are already on the land. It is practical and suggestive.—*Dr. C. B. Smith, formerly Assistant Director of Extension Work.*

## Many immunized

Back of the fact that 27.8 percent of all the people in Polk County, Mo., were recently immunized against typhoid, diphtheria, or smallpox at 11 clinics, lies the effort of 86 neighborhood leaders and County Agent R. W. Kallenbach. They spent many hours in arranging for the clinics and informing others about them so that the people could protect themselves against such diseases during these strenuous war days.

The clinics, as conducted by the State Board of Health and the county health nurse, managed to give 9,733 shots and vaccinations to 4,727 persons during September and October. In one day, 1,400 vaccinations or shots were given.

The 86 leaders had been selected to direct health activities in their localities under the neighborhood-leader plan being developed in every county of the State with the assistance of the Extension Service of the University of Missouri College of Agriculture and the United States Department of Agriculture. These leaders in Polk County gave 435 hours of their time to arranging for the clinics.

Not only did they arouse interest in the program and explain the procedure for obtaining the immunization but they also, in many cases, made arrangements for cars, trucks, and school busses to aid in taking people to and from the clinics.

The health leaders were appointed by the neighborhood chairmen and were given organizational training and information by County Agent Kallenbach before they participated in this big program.—*F. E. Rogers, State agent, Missouri.*

## A new slidefilm ready

The slidefilm, Cattle Grubs, or Heel Flies—Slidefilm No. 637, 33 frames, single, \$0.50; double, \$0.90, has been completed by the Extension Service in cooperation with the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine. The slidefilm may be purchased at the prices indicated from Photo Lab, Inc., 3825 Georgia Avenue NW., Washington, D. C., after first obtaining authorization from the United States Department of Agriculture.



## Is a brief nutrition talk effective?

If you give a brief talk on nutrition to a group of homemakers, will they learn anything from the talk? Will they have a better understanding of nutrition? Will they change their food habits? According to a nutrition study of homemakers in Morris County, N. J., the answer is yes.

The 198 homemakers studied were given a test on vitamins and food practices. The test was prepared on the basis of a nutrition talk given by Miriam F. Parmenter, Morris County home demonstration agent. Three months later the test was repeated with the same homemakers.

During the 3-month interval between tests, one group of 151 homemakers attended nutrition classes, such as a standard Red Cross nutrition course, and also heard Miss Parmenter's talk. Another group of 27 homemakers attended a meeting at which the home agent gave the same talk. None of these 27 homemakers attended a nutrition class. A third group of homemakers neither heard the talk nor attended the nutrition class.

Although the homemakers attending nutrition classes learned more about nutrition and adopted more practices than the homemakers hearing the talk only, nevertheless, substantial increases resulted from the 45-minute talk, as shown in the following table.

Homemakers	Percentage increase in—	
	Facts learned	Practices adopted
Nutrition classes . . . . .	52	67
Nutrition talk . . . . .	25	42
No class or talk . . . . .	7	8

Miss Parmenter used good teaching techniques. She presented the material in an interesting manner. Pictures and charts were used to illustrate her points, and leaflets were supplied for future reference.

Homemakers who heard the talk learned more facts about nutrition and changed their practices to a greater extent than the homemakers who did not hear the talk or attend any class on nutrition.

### "Hidden" Hunger

The Morris County study shows that homemakers can be made more conscious of "hidden" hunger. The homemakers realize that even if they eat the food they like, and it satisfies their "hollow" hunger and does not make them sick, they may still be undernourished. The homemakers attending a nutrition class increased 21 percent in their recognition of "hidden" hunger. Those hearing only the talk increased 18 percent. Those who neither heard the talk nor attended a nutrition class increased only 5 percent. The emphasis in the talk on the effects of vitamins and vita-

# EXTENSION RESEARCH

## Studying Our Job of Extension Teaching

min deficiencies was probably responsible for enlarging the homemaker's horizon of what it takes to be well nourished, the authors point out. In creating a greater recognition of "hidden" hunger, the talk was nearly as effective as the course.

### Vitamins Not a Passing Fad

On the first test, 9 out of 10 homemakers believed that the present emphasis on vitamins is not a passing fad. More of the "nutrition class" homemakers had this attitude after the class than before. On the other hand, fewer of the "no class or talk" group had this attitude on the second test than on the first test. Interestingly enough, the "nutrition talk" group of homemakers showed the same tendency. It appeared that the nutrition talk did not affect the group of homemakers so far as this attitude toward vitamins is concerned. The difference in results seemed to indicate that the short experience of a 45-minute talk was not enough to change the attitude in a positive direction. The results may illustrate the theory that some changes in people are brought about by a longer and more satisfying experience and study in any particular field of knowledge.—STUDY OF EFFECTIVENESS OF NUTRITION TEACHING IN MORRIS COUNTY, N. J., by Fred Frutchey and Gladys Gallup of the Federal Extension Service, and Mildred Murphy, New Jersey Extension Service. N. J. Ext. Pub. 1942.

## How to make war posters

Posters can help win the war. Because posters have played an important part in mobilizing Canadians in support of the war effort, it was believed that a study of Canadian war posters would aid materially in the production of effective war posters by the United States Government.

The survey, therefore, was made in Toronto, Canada, between March 16 and April 1, 1942. It covered 33 different Canadian war posters. They dealt with the first and second Canadian Victory Loans, and campaigns on War Savings certificates, anti-gossip, and on stopping needless purchases. Eight were industrial posters, displayed in plants to help speed up war production.

About 400 men and women from the upper, average, and lower-income groups were inter-

viewed. They were shown photographs of the posters and asked to point out those they remembered having seen. In addition, all people interviewed were asked which of each group of posters they liked best, and what meaning the poster conveyed to them.

For study purposes the posters were classified as emotional, symbolic, factual, and humorous. War posters with a purely emotional appeal attracted most attention, and made the most favorable impression among both men and women. The symbolic posters did not attract a great deal of attention, failed to arouse enthusiasm, and were often misunderstood. The war posters that made straightforward, factual appeals were less effective than those with emotional appeal. Humorous war posters were the least effective and were disliked by some people.—HOW TO MAKE POSTERS THAT WILL HELP WIN THE WAR, by Young and Rubican, Inc., for the National Advisory Council on Government Posters of the Graphics Division, Office of War Information, Washington, D. C.

## 4-H boy's attitude toward scientific information

Does 4-H Club work develop a scientific attitude toward agricultural information? When manpower is at a premium it is essential to produce efficiently. Tested and approved practices increase efficiency, but the use of these practices depends much upon the attitude of people. If people have little appreciation of scientific research they are not likely to adopt farming practices because the practices are based on scientific research.

Teaching the value of scientific information through visits to agricultural experiment stations apparently has a favorable effect upon the attitude of boys participating in 4-H demonstrations in Arkansas.

Tests given the boys at the beginning of the demonstration in the spring and again in the fall showed that they became more appreciative of the practical value of scientific information about soils, crops, and farm animals. A parallel check group of boys who were not in 4-H work did not become more appreciative.

Furthermore, when asked where they can get the best information about growing cotton, 22 percent of the 4-H boys and only 5 percent of the nonmembers mentioned the agricultural experiment station.

The results of this study indicate possibilities of the educational values of tours to the experiment station. Although transportation difficulties will hamper tours as a 4-H activity during the war, more complete study of tours to experiment stations should be made at the first opportunity, the authors point out.—EVALUATION IN 4-H COTTON DEMONSTRATION—ARKANSAS, by Fred P. Frutchey, Federal Extension Service; and W. J. Jernigan and W. M. Cooper, Arkansas Extension Service. U. S. D. A. Ext. Serv. Circ. 391, October 1942.



## IN BRIEF

### County transportation committees

A charter outlining the work of county farm transportation committees was prepared and presented by Paul Carpenter, extension economist in marketing and leader of the transportation project, at a meeting of organization and agency representatives from Oregon and Washington held in Portland on September 29. The meeting was held in the office of the district director, Interstate Commerce Commission, Bureau of Motor Carriers. Representatives of the Grange, Farm Bureau, Motor Transport Division of ODT, Public Utilities Commission, Interstate Commerce Commission, Bureau of Motor Carriers, State USDA War Boards, and Extension Services from Oregon and Washington attended the meeting. The charter of work was adopted, and plans were discussed for servicing county committees during November and December to explain the scope of work and procedure.

### Apples are harvested

Two-thirds of the unusually heavy McIntosh apple crop of Connecticut was saved largely owing to the efforts of volunteer pickers recruited from towns, cities, schools, colleges, and factories.

The Extension Service and the United States Employment Service have cooperated in these efforts. Paul L. Putnam, farm management specialist, is chairman of the Farm Labor Committee of the State Defense Council and is in a position to recruit emergency farm labor. County agents, fruit specialists, and editors assisted. Faculty members and students of the University picked 3,875 bushels of apples in eastern Connecticut orchards. Thirty Yale students gave up a week's vacation for full-time orchard work. Wesleyan students were excused from physical education classes to work as pickers. Students of one high school in Southington picked between 9,000 and 10,000 bushels of apples.

### Kansas photographers compete

The third annual photographic contest for Kansas extension workers proved a popular feature of the annual extension conference. There was great interest in color slides. The score sheet for judging was that worked out by Don Bennett of the Federal office. The first-prize series, by County Agent Lot Taylor of Butler County on production of soybeans and flax; the second-prize set on building a landscape, by Linus Burton, landscape specialist; and the third-prize set, "A Lesson From Nature," emphasizing the use of pasture crops to reduce farm labor requirements, were all shown at a general session. Each of the

winners read his own script as the slides were shown. There were 17 competing entries in the color-slide competition.

In the black-and-white photographs, Glenn M. Busset, Dickinson County 4-H Club agent, came off first with a series of three pictures showing some phases of club work in his county. Second place went to Esther I. Miller, home demonstration agent in Pratt County, and third place to Iva Holladay, home demonstration agent, Leavenworth County. All awards were war stamps.

### Oklahoma scrap harvested

Harvest season in Wood County saw the scrap come rolling in. From the 13 official scrap depots, more than 613 tons of scrap metal have been collected. Neighborhood leaders—124 men and 124 women—visited 1,573 farms, or 97.8 percent of all the farms in the county. The extension agents, George Felkel and Gladys Thompson, organized and trained the neighborhood leaders. Definite lists were worked out in each of the 124 neighborhoods with a farm man and woman in charge of approximately 14 families. A county map showing the location of every farm family was made to avoid missing anyone.

Since Pearl Harbor, the patriotic farm folk of Wood County have shipped out more than 72 freight cars full of scrap—more than 3,240 tons, or about 432 pounds for every individual in the county. For this reason, they have a vested interest in guns, tanks, and other war equipment that will be used to fight for American ideals.

■ B. G. Hall, Morgan County agent, Alabama, reports that 111 neighborhood farm groups in his county have organized for 1 farm truck to serve each neighborhood. The county tire-rationing board is giving preferred attention to the tire needs of trucks serving farmers in each organized community.

### On the Calendar

National Western Stock Show, Denver, Colo., January 16-23.

National Wool Growers Association, Salt Lake City, Utah, January 20-21.

4-H Club Radio Program, Farm and Home Hour, Blue Network, February 6.

National 4-H Mobilization Week, February 6-14.

National Farm Institute, Des Moines, Iowa, February 19-20.

American Education Research Association, St. Louis, Mo., February 27-Mar. 4.

Department of Home Economics, National Education Association, St. Louis, Mo., February 27-March 4.

Department of Rural Education, National Education Association, St. Louis, Mo., February 27-March 4.

Department of Visual Instruction, National Education Association, St. Louis, Mo., February 27-March 4.

## AMONG OURSELVES

■ H. J. C. UMBERGER, director of the Kansas Extension Service, was awarded the Distinguished Service Ruby, the highest honor for meritorious service given by Epsilon Sigma Phi, the national honorary extension fraternity, at the Grand Council meeting held October 27, 1942, in Chicago.

The 1942 certificates of recognition were awarded to Frank E. Balmer, former director of Extension Service in the State of Washington; Dr. Flora Rose, former head of the College of Home Economics, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y. (living now in Berkeley, Calif.); Dr. Lillian Abbey Marlatt, former head of the Home Economics Department, University of Wisconsin; Eleanor S. Moss, home demonstration agent, Litchfield County, Conn; Ralph Hicks Wheeler, professor in extension teaching, New York; Jeannetta Weil, chief clerk, West Virginia Extension Service; D. H. Zentmire, county agent, Iowa County, Iowa; A. F. Turner, district agent at large, Kansas; T. A. Erickson, former State 4-H Club leader, Minnesota; Arthur Percival Spencer, vice director of Florida Extension Service; H. C. Sanders, director of Louisiana Extension Service; W. D. Buchanan, rural life specialist, State of Washington; and Verner E. Scott, extension agricultural economist, Nevada.

■ T. M. CAMPBELL, field agent in Negro extension work stationed at Tuskegee Institute, Ala., has a family of five children brought up in the extension tradition of service. An article in the Pittsburgh Courier, with a half-page spread including pictures, told of the distinguished service they are giving their country. The article lists Emily Virginia who entered Lincoln Hospital this fall as a student nurse; Lt. T. M. Jr., a member of the United States Army Medical Corps; Rose Elizabeth, Tuskegee senior, holder of instructor's certificate in water safety and first aid; Abbie Noel, a member of the WAAC; and Lt. William Ayers Campbell who, after completing the full course in civilian aeronautics at Tuskegee, volunteered in the United States Army Air Corps and received his "wings" with the 99th Fighter Squadron. Mrs. Campbell does her share, serving with the Tuskegee Red Cross Chapter.

■ New Jersey home demonstration agents have assisted the State dental authorities in organizing mobile dental-clinic units. New Jersey is one of the first States to make use of this solution to the dental problem in rural areas. Outstanding work has been done by the dental clinic in Somerset County, where a dental health committee has been carrying out a health program—meeting with groups of parents and discussing dental hygiene.



# The once-over

## Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

**FARM MOBILIZATION DAY**—January 12—touches off the great wartime food-production campaign of 1943. The United Nations' strategy calls for food as a weapon to build ever-increasing power against the enemy. The food supply is being planned just as the munitions supply is being planned. The planning of the year's production goals started with the deliberations of the Combined Food Board of the United States and the United Kingdom. The needs have been charted. Resources are now being mobilized.

**1943 PRODUCTION GOALS** in general call for more meat, more milk, more poultry and eggs, more vegetables of high food value and less of those with relatively low food value, more corn and less wheat, more peanuts for food and oil, more long-staple cotton, and less short-staple cotton, more potatoes, and more dry beans and peas.

**LAND, LABOR, AND EQUIPMENT** must be shifted to foods essential to the war effort as set up in these goals. Total crop acreage has reached the limit that is practical with the available labor, machinery, fertilizers, and other productive resources. The 10-percent increase in livestock products called for with the same forage-crop acreage will certainly mean an extensive shift in the kinds of crops grown.

**INVENTORY AND PLANNING** will occupy most of the month. The farm plan work sheet, distributed by the county war boards and filled out with the help of the AAA committeemen, will give every farmer a bird's-eye view of where he stands in the picture, his war obligations, and his difficulties. It will also give the war boards and the extension agents their cue as to where the farmer most needs service.

**SCIENTIFIC AND PRACTICAL ADVICE** needed to meet the goals will be provided by the extension agent. Many farmers will be growing crops that they never have grown before. For example, the 300,000 acres of hemp needed in 1943 will, for the most part, be grown by farmers who never have grown hemp before. The increasing density of livestock population will bring greater problems in disease control. This will be particularly true of hogs and poultry where the greatest increases are occurring. Some supplies used in control of parasites and diseases will be scarce, and advice will be needed on alternative methods of control. Efficient production is of utmost importance. An educational program to promote efficiency—to get the most from every acre of land, every head of

livestock, every hour of labor, and every piece of machinery—must occupy top place on the extension agent's schedule.

**MORE LEND-LEASE FOOD** deliveries for Allied Nations increased by 93 million pounds in October over the preceding month. More than 645 million pounds were laid down at shipside. This means that lend-lease shipments to the Allies are now at the rate of about 15 percent of total American agricultural production, with heavy additional requests now being received.

**4-H MOBILIZATION WEEK**—February 6 to 14—is well under way in every State. Plans for national radio broadcasts, State governors' proclamations, news articles, and window displays are being perfected. Many counties are adopting a good idea from Jackson County, Tex., which last year raised enough food or the equivalent to feed for 1 year the 274 soldiers who had gone from that county to fight for freedom. Many 4-H Clubs are taking this as the 1943 goal, to raise the equivalent of enough food for the boys from their own county for 1 year. 4-H Clubs are aiming to enlist as many rural young people as possible in their wartime program.

**NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERS FUNCTION** efficiently on many fronts. They have carried the share-the-meat message to practically every rural home. Many have already reported on the number of families seen, the number who want to cooperate, and those

who wish demonstrations on cooking meat or using other foods to take the place of meat. In Washington County, Colo., 130 neighborhood leaders recently undertook the job of forming transportation pool centers in the various communities to conserve tires and trucks, reports County Agent Jasper J. French. Negro neighborhood leaders in Thebes community, Liberty County, Ga., organized a group of farmers to beat and clean rice and grind corn. Simple, attractive letters and leaflets for neighborhood leaders continue to come in, for instance, from Wisconsin, Delaware, and Connecticut.

**TRAINING NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERS** is the name of a new mimeographed publication Extension Service Circular 397, which gives practical suggestions and examples helpful in making the neighborhood-leader system more efficient.

**A HANDBOOK FOR FOOD DEMONSTRATIONS** in wartime has been prepared by a special committee of nutritionists and home economists working with the nutrition division of the Office of Defense Health and Welfare, under the direction of the Inter-Departmental Nutrition Coordination Committee of which Director M. L. Wilson is chairman. The handbook describes typical demonstrations in which share-the-meat subject matter is used.

**TO UTILIZE LARGE NUMBERS OF NON-FARM YOUTH** on farms next summer, a plan is under consideration, based on the experiences of the Land Corps and other organizations during the past season, which calls for cooperation of the Extension Service, Office of Education, and the United States Employment Service. Extension responsibility would include helping to select the farms, to supervise the workers, and helping on other matters relating to the farmer-worker relationship.

**NEW AND ENLARGED MARKETING PLANS** are being developed in several Southern States, as marketing problems will occupy an important place in southern extension programs this year, as well as on their regional conference program. Mississippi, with a 2-year appropriation of \$50,000, is planning to employ seven specialists, including a market information specialist who will set up a marketing program. Alabama's Governor-elect has set up a committee representing the seven or eight interested organizations, under the chairmanship of Assistant Extension Director Lawson, which is studying the entire situation and recommending a program. Louisiana, with \$10,000 for market research and \$50,000 for marketing facilities, is making a comprehensive study of present facilities and the best location for new ones. The extension director is serving on this committee.

## EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW

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